

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1 A method for enhancing performance of a high-capacity storage media in a
2 digital imaging device, comprising the steps of;

3 a) storing images on the storage media, the images including tags for
4 categorizing the images;

5 b) generating an image category list from the tags in the images and storing the
6 category list on the storage media, the image category list including a default category; and

7 c) accessing the image category list in order to display the images, wherein only
8 the images belonging to the default category are displayed, thereby speeding access to, and
9 display of, the images.

10 2 The method of claim 1 further including the step of:

11 d) synchronizing the image category list with the images on the storage media
12 when it has been determined that at least one image was deleted, added, or recategorized.

13 3 The method of claim 2 wherein step d) further includes the step of:

14 i) automatically synchronizing the image category list when the storage media is
15 under control of the digital imaging device.

16 4 The method of claim 3 wherein step d) further includes the step of:

2 ii) performing a subsequent synchronization of the image category list after it
3 has been determined that at least one image was deleted, added, or recategorized when the
4 storage media was under control of an external device.

1 5 The method of claim 1 wherein step b) further includes the step of
2 i) generating dynamic categories from the tags.

1 6 The method of claim 5 wherein one of the tags indicates a date of image
capture, step a) further including the step of:

i) setting thresholds for the date to automatically create the dynamic categories.

7 The method of claim 6 wherein step a) further includes the step of:

ii) providing a recent category that displays N of latest images captured.

8 The method of claim 1 further including the step of:

2 d) allowing a user to select a category in the category list to change which
3 images are being displayed.

1 9 The method of claim 8 wherein step d) further includes the step of:

2 i) allowing the user to change the default category.

1 10 A system for enhancing performance of a high-capacity storage media in a
2 digital imaging device, comprising;

3 means for storing images on the storage media, the images including tags for
4 categorizing the images;

5 means for generating an image category list from the tags in the images and storing
6 the category list on the storage media, the image category list including a default category;
7 and

8 means for accessing the image category list in order to display the images, wherein
9 only the images belonging to the default category are displayed, thereby speeding access to,
10 and display of, the images.

11 The system of claim 10 further including means for synchronizing the image
category list with the images on the storage media when it has been determined that at least
one image was deleted, added, or recategorized.

12 The system of claim 11 wherein the means synchronizing automatically
synchronizing the image category list when the storage media is under control of the digital
imaging device.

13 The system of claim 12 wherein the means synchronizing performs the
synchronization of the image category list after it has been determined that at least one
image was deleted, added, or recategorized when the storage media was under control of an
external device.

14 The system of claim 10 wherein the means for generating generates dynamic

2 categories from the image categories.

1 15 The system of claim 14 wherein one of the tags indicates a date of image
2 capture, the means for generating further including means for setting thresholds for the date
3 to automatically create the dynamic categories.

1 16 The system of claim 15 wherein the dynamic categories include a recent
2 category that displays N of latest images captured.

1 17 The system of claim 10 further including means for allowing a user to select a
2 category in the category list to change which images are being displayed.

1 18 The system of claim 17 further including means for allowing the user to
2 change the default category.

1 19 A computer-readable medium containing program instructions for enhancing
2 performance of a high-capacity storage media in a digital imaging device, program
3 instructions for;

4 a) storing images on the storage media, the images including tags for
5 categorizing the images;

6 b) generating an image category list from the tags in the images and storing the
7 category list on the storage media, the image category list including a default category; and

8 c) accessing the image category list in order to display the images, wherein only

the images belonging to the default category are displayed, thereby speeding access to, and display of, the images.

20 The computer-readable medium of claim 19 further including program instructions for:

d) synchronizing the image category list with the images on the storage media when it has been determined that at least one image was deleted, added, or recategorized.

21 The computer-readable medium of claim 20 wherein program instruction d) further includes program instructions for:

i) automatically synchronizing the image category list when the storage media is under control of the digital imaging device.

22 The computer-readable medium of claim 21 wherein program instruction d) further includes program instructions for:

ii) performing a subsequent synchronization of the image category list after it has been determined that at least one image was deleted, added, or recategorized when the storage media was under control of an external device.

23 The computer-readable medium of claim 19 wherein program instruction b) further includes program instructions for generating dynamic categories from the tags.

24 The computer-readable medium of claim 22 wherein one of the tags indicates

2 a date of image capture, program instruction a) further including program instructions for;
3 i) setting thresholds for the date to automatically create the dynamic categories.

1 25 The computer-readable medium of claim 24 wherein program instruction a)
2 further includes program instructions for

3 ii) providing a recent category that displays N of latest images captured.

1 26 The computer-readable medium of claim 19 further including program
2 instructions for:

3 d) allowing a user to select a category in the category list to change which
4 images are being displayed.

5 27 The computer-readable medium of claim 26 wherein step d) further includes
6 program instructions for:

7 i) allowing the user to change the default category.

1 28 A method for enhancing performance of a high-capacity storage media in a
2 digital imaging device, comprising the steps of;

3 a) storing images on the storage media, the images including tags for
4 categorizing the images, wherein one of the tags indicates date and time of image capture;

5 b) generating an category list from the tags in the images, the image category list
6 including a default category;

7 c) storing the category list on the storage media;

8 d) when displaying the images, accessing the category list and displaying only
9 the images belonging to the default category;

10 e) automatically synchronizing the image category list with images on the
11 storage device when images on the storage device are deleted, added, or recategorized while
12 the storage device was under control of the digital imaging device; and

13 f) requesting the user to initiate a synchronization of the image category list
14 with the images on the storage media when it has been determined that images on the storage
15 media were deleted, added, or recategorized while the storage media under control of an
16 external device.

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